

**Government Official Attempts to Stifle the Lab Leak Hypothesis**

**1. Email from Dr. Francis Collins to Drs. Anthony Fauci, Lawrence Tabak, Cliff Lane, and Mr. John Burklow**

From: Collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E] [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2020 5:02 PM  
To: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] [REDACTED]  
Cc: Tabak, Lawrence (NIH/OD) [E] [REDACTED]; Lane, Cliff (NIH/NIAID) [E] [REDACTED]; Burklow, John (NIH/OD) [E] [REDACTED]  
Subject: conspiracy gains momentum

[REDACTED]  
<https://www.mediaite.com/tv/foxs-bret-baier-sources-increasingly-confident-coronavirus-outbreak-started-in-wuhan-lab/>

Francis

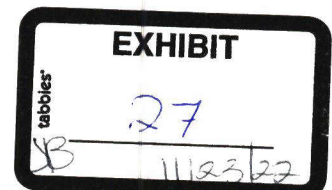
Wondering if there is something NIH can do to help put down this very destructive conspiracy, with what seems to be growing momentum:

<https://www.mediaite.com/tv/foxs-bret-baier-sources-increasingly-confident-coronavirus-outbreak-started-in-wuhan-lab/>

I hoped the Nature Medicine article on the genomic sequence of SARS-CoV-2 would settle this. But probably didn't get much visibility.

Anything more we can do? Ask the National Academy to weigh in?

Francis



**2. Email from Dr. Anthony Fauci to Dr. Francis Collins**

**From:** Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]  
**Sent:** Fri, 17 Apr 2020 02:45:01 +0000  
**To:** Collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E]  
**Subject:** RE: conspiracy gains momentum

Francis:

[REDACTED] (b) (5)

Best,  
Tony

I would not do anything about this right now. It is a shiny object that will go away in times.